

The airwaves, like the public rights of way (PROWs) in our Cities and Towns, belong to us. Just as a set aside for community use in the form of PEG Access channels was established in the 84 Cable Act, so should a set aside for FREE POLITICAL SPEECH be protected on all broadcast channels.

If the FCC were to do that one simple thing ... the communications systems in this country would be truly democratic and would serve our Democracy instead of undermining it to the point of possible destruction.

The FCC has never been in the driver's seat of more important issues. The democratic model the world watches is largely a product of how you five commissioners see those principles. Good luck and may you steer an healthy course for the world.

This Sinclair manipulation power over our airwaves is an example of the lack of leadership at the helm of the regulatory body which should be clearly defining what can and cannot be done at the expense of the citizens. Bring back the Fair Use provisions (Equal Time), those provisions served everyone well.

In the mean time ... you've got a mess on your hands that goes with the neglect of clear direction. Clean it up on our behalf, not the station owners and Sumner Redstone.

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.